

As you can imagine, VCH faces many challenges to its ability to provide health care. These challenges include inadequate transportation, shortages of health professionals, high poverty and unemployment, and the fact that there are 93 different spoken languages and dialects in the region. Each of the 10 counties that VCH serves is federally designated as medically underserved.

In light of budget realities, we must continue to carefully define our appropriations priorities. I appreciate the Subcommittee's recognition that Valley Children's Hospital is a meritorious organization with projects that deserve special consideration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, due to a commitment in my Congressional District, I was absent on Monday, June 25th for three recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes, No. 186, H.Res. 160, No. 187, H. Res. 99, and rollcall vote No. 188, H. Con. Res. 161.

HONORING CHARLOTTE KEYS

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Charlotte Keys, who was recently honored as a 2001 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leader. Ms. Keys is one of only 10 individuals from around the country to receive this distinguished award, which includes a \$100,000 grant to help further her work.

Ms. Keys is the founder of an organization called Jesus People Against Pollution, located in Columbia, Mississippi, which works to mobilize the community to improve health and environmental justice. Her early efforts focused on those in the community who suffered severe health problems as a result of a major explosion at a chemical plant in Columbia in 1977. She mobilized the community and advocated for them.

As a result of her activism, she was asked to leave her job and she endured threats on her life. Undaunted by this experience, and moved by the extensive health needs of her neighbors, many of whom were children or senior citizens, Ms. Keys formed Jesus People Against Pollution, or JPAP, in 1992. She created JPAP to help educate the community about environmental health threats and to advocate for cleanup and redevelopment.

Today, JPAP offers training and advocacy programs and has co-hosted a regional summit on environmental justice with participation by both the state and federal governments. In addition, Ms. Keys has become a trusted leader, and the community looks to her as a resource for assistance in other social issues, such as housing, food stamps and disability benefits.

One of her nominators described Ms. Keys as a "long distance runner who possesses a

profound commitment to the cause of justice." It is my hope that she continues to run this race for justice. It is clear that she has covered quite a distance, but the road still stretches out ahead.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege today to honor Charlotte Keys for this well deserved leadership award. I am confident that it will help to strengthen and sustain her important work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 25, I missed rollcall votes 186–188. Had I been present on this date, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall Nos. 186, 187, and 188. On this date, I had committed to participating in an event in my congressional district prior to the scheduling of votes.

REGARDING FAIR LAWN MAYOR DAVID GANZ

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the U.S. Mint is poised to issue the 14th in a series of State Quarters that started in 1999 and which will continue through at least the year 2008.

On June 4, 2001, I read an interesting article in the *The Record*, the largest newspaper in my Congressional District, about the origins of the state quarter, which came about because of the legislative vision of my colleague from Delaware, Representative MICHAEL CASTLE and the tenacity of the Mayor of my hometown, the Borough of Fair Lawn, David Ganz.

Mayor Ganz is not a stranger to the congressional legislative process. In 1973, while still a student at Georgetown University here in Washington, he was admitted to the Periodical Press Gallery of the United States Senate as a Special Correspondent for *Numismatic News Weekly*, a hobby publication based in Wisconsin. He went on to become a member of the Board of Governors of the American Numismatic Association, a Congressionally-chartered group sometimes referred to as the National Coin Club. In 1993, U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, named him among the first six members of the newly-created Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee.

Both as President of the American Numismatic Association, and as a columnist for various coin collecting hobby publications, David had long advocated for a return to commemorative coinage [for which there had been a hiatus from 1954 until 1981], but also for truly circulating commemorative coins. He testified before the House & Senate Banking Committees on numerous occasions in the quarter century following his first appearance in March of 1974.

Mr. Speaker, bureaucracy is often afraid of change for no reason beyond the fact that it is not familiar, not predictable, or not safe.

Mayor Ganz had a vision that circulating commemorative coinage would be good for our nation's coin collectors, good for our nation's coffers, and ultimately, educational to all Americans. From the time that he joined the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee in 1993 until he departed in January of 1996, he began a drum beat for what eventually became the American's State Quarters Program. That singular drum beat, initially opposed by the U.S. Mint and certain federal bureaucrats, eventually became an orchestra playing the same tune—and as a result of the efforts of my colleague from Delaware, Representative Castle, and others, the state quarter program was born.

Mayor Ganz recently wrote a book entitled *The Official Guide to America's State Quarters*, published by Random House, as a mass-market paperback which tells the compelling story of initially being a voice in the wilderness, and later finding that if defeat is an orphan, victory has a thousand fathers.

The story about Mayor Ganz which appeared in the June 4, 2001, edition of *The Record* is a fascinating and interesting one, and I ask that it be reprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, The *Record* editorial about Mayor Ganz that was printed on June 5, 2001, says that one man can make a difference, and he certainly has. I am proud to call this man my Mayor, and proud to have him as a friend. I ask that this editorial be reprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as well.

A GREAT TWO-BIT IDEA

It would be an exaggeration to say that David Ganz's achievement reflects the power of one man to change history.

But it would not be overstated to say that Fair Lawn's mayor has brightened everyone's life a little—not to mention the not inconsequential achievement of adding roughly \$5 billion a year to the nation's Treasury.

Mr. Ganz, a 49-year-old lawyer and lifelong numismatist, was the engine behind all those fascinating, new quarters we've been finding in our pockets over the last two years—the ones celebrating the nation's 50 states. The commemorative coins have been issued at the rate of five a year since 1999, and the U.S. Mint will continue issuing new coins through 2008, when there will be one for each state.

The achievement has added a little adventure to the otherwise unremarkable task of handling change, and it has regenerated interest in coin collecting. By setting the Mint's presses into overtime in production of five times more quarters than usual to meet demand, the new coins have added \$5 billion a year to the Treasury's coffers. Each quarter costs 3 cents to produce, leaving 22 cents as profit for the Mint.

Mr. Ganz's idea wasn't unusual. A lot of people have over the years recommended that the Mint spice up the nation's stodgy coin and currency by putting commemorative issues into general circulation. But the bureaucrats resisted, content to issue the occasional limited-production commemorative that only collectors would buy and save.

Mr. Ganz's prominence, energy, and perseverance as a member of former Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen's Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee dismantled those bureaucratic hurdles. By doing so, the Fair Lawn mayor has added this sort of color to our lives: Trips to change makers at the laundromat now have possibilities of becoming serendipitous encounters with pieces of history instead of hurried chores to feed the dryer.